GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3083
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Sharing of Funds between Centre and States
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funding pattern of the Government for certain schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day Meal Scheme between Centre and States has been changed recently and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(b) whether the Government is aware that this is likely to affect the effectiveness of such schemes in the States and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the States have given concurrence to the revised formula; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the mechanism adopted/to be adopted by the Government to monitor the quality and impact of such schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a): Yes, Madam. It has been decided that the fund sharing pattern of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Schemes will be in the ratio of 60:40 between the Centre and States; and 90:10 for the 8 North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura and 3 Himalayan States of Jammu Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand with effect from the year 2015-16. The changes in the fund sharing pattern are based on the report of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes constituted by the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog.
(b):With the acceptance of the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission (FFC) by Government of India, the devolution to the States has increased from 32% to 42% of the net Union Tax Receipts. It is estimated that this entails devolution of additional resources to States as untied funds. Therefore, the changes are not likely to affect the effectiveness of schemes in the States.
(c): The changes in the fund sharing pattern of the SSA and MDM are based on the report of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on the rationalization of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs). The Sub − Group undertook extensive consultation with States and UTs including those which were not represented by their Chief Ministers or Lieutenant Governors (LGs) in the Sub-Group. Thus, it is implicit that most of the States are in concurrence with the report of the Sub-Group on fund sharing pattern of the CSSs.
(d): The implementation of SSA is reviewed twice every year by a Joint Review Mission comprising independent experts and external funding agencies covering States. The Ministry of Human Resource Development convenes periodic meetings with State Education Ministers and Secretaries to review the programme implementation. Data on Educational indicators are collected through a Unified District Implementation System of Education (UDISE) every year. National Achievement Surveys (NAS) are conducted to check the health of the educational system and to provide information about the learning achievement of students.
The implementation of MDM is also reviewed regularly through Joint Review Missions so as to assess the quality and impact of the scheme. At national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister, Ministry of Human Resource Development, a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB) monitor the Scheme and suggest policy measures for effective implementation of the Scheme. At the State level, State level Steering−cum-Monitoring Committee headed by Chief Secretary and at the district level a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of senior most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha monitor the scheme. Updated guidelines have been issued on quality, safety and hygiene on school level kitchens to all the States/UTs in February, 2015. MDM Rules, 2015 provide for mandatory testing of food samples on a monthly basis by Government recognized laboratories to ensure that the meals meet with nutritional standards and quality. The utilization of funds and food grains is also monitored through the Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) as well as through the Management Information System (MIS).
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